for release of funds under National River Conservation Programme, to take up the work of Environment Action Plan for Hyderabad city; and

(b) if so, the details of the projects and the action taken by Government, in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) and (b) The Government of Andhra Pradesh has submitted a proposal for taking up pollution abatement works at Hyderabad for cleaning of Musi River. The proposal includes interception, diversion and treatment of sewage flowing through 18 drains in Hyderabad by laying about 40 Km. long sewer, construction of 12 sewage pumping stations and setting up of 5 sewage treatment plants along with allied works. The estimated cost of the project is Rs. 352 crore. A necessary action has been initiated to obtain Government approval for the project.

Vehicular pollution in Delhi

5433. SHRI NANA DESHMUKH: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 64 per cent of air pollution in Delhi is because of vehicular pollution,as per Centre for Science and Environment;

(b) whether it is also a fact that an estimated 1300 metric tons of pollutant are emitted by vehicles in Delhi everyday which is more than the total in four other metros in the country; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken by Government for availability of cleaner fuel, better quality batteries and hydrogen fuels like developed countries,to make environment free pollutants in Delhi?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) According to a 1996 publication of Centre for Science and Environment, 64 per cent of the air pollution in Delhi is attributed to vehicular pollution.

(b) According to Central Pollution Control Board the estimated vehicular emission load from the on-road vehicles per day during the year 2001 is about 1300 metric tons in Delhi which is less than the total from Mumbai Chennai, Kolkata and Hyderabad.

(c) The steps taken by the Government to control vehicular pollution in Delhi include the following:

— Adopted Compressed Natural Gas (CNG) and Liquified Petroleum Gas (LPG) as auto fuels.

— Concessional customs duty on import of CNG, LPG and Propane kits and its parts.

— Supply of improved quality of fuel (petrol as well as diesel) to comply more stringent emission norms for motor vehicles.

— A project has been sanctioned for demonstration and field evaluation of battery operated three wheelers.

— Research, development and demonstration projects have been taken up in the area of Hydrogen energy.

Tigers in Sitanadi and Udanti Sanctuaries

5434. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of tigers in Sitanadi and Udanti Wildlife Sanctuaries, in Chhattisgarh during 2003 and the figures since 1970, separately;

(b) whether the Sitanadi and Udanti Wildlife Sanctuaries are being considered as Project Tiger Reserves during the Tenth Five Year Plan; and

(c) the other forest areas in India, being considered as Project Tiger Reserves, during the Tenth Five Year Plan?

THE MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T.R. BAALU): (a) Protected area-wise figures of tiger from 1970 are not available with Central Government. The number of Tigers in Sitanadi and Udanti Wildlife Sanctuaries from 1993 to 2001 are as below:

	Sitanadi	Udanti
1993	7	21
1997	3	16
1999	3	15
2001	3	12